



**S. C. DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

P.O. Box 1993 • Blythewood, S.C. 29016
Tel: (803) 896-7759

SHAWN MUSGRAVE
MUCKROCK NEWS
DEPT MR 2725
PO BOX 55819
BOSTON, MA 02205-5819

10/18/2013

Request Number : 1310112

RE: SC DEPT. OF PUBLIC SAFETY DRONE RECORDS

DEAR MUSGRAVE

YOUR REQUEST FOR THE ABOVE-REFERENCED RECORD(S) HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY THE SC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY (SCDPS) AND IS CURRENTLY BEING RESEARCHED.

IF WE ARE UNABLE TO LOCATE YOUR REQUESTED RECORD(S) BASED ON THE INFORMATION SUBMITTED OR IF SCDPS IS NOT THE CUSTODIAN OF SUCH RECORD(S), YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED IN WRITING. IF APPLICABLE, SCDPS WILL IDENTIFY ANY EXEMPTION(S) TO PRODUCING THE REQUESTED RECORD(S).

FURTHER INQUIRIES REGARDING YOUR REQUEST SHOULD INCLUDE YOUR ABOVE-MENTIONED FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST NUMBER.

THANK YOU,

ADA SCHMIDT
FOIA COORDINATOR
SC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE
(803) 896-7759
FOIA@SCDPS.GOV

October 15, 2013
South Carolina Highway Patrol
South Carolina Highway Patrol
P. O. Box 1993
Blythewood, SC, 29016

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, I hereby request the following records:

All documents created from January 2005 to the date this request is processed related to the agency's use of aerial drones, remotely piloted vehicles (RPVs), remotely piloted aircraft (RPAs), unmanned aerials (UAs), unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), and/or unmanned aerial systems (UASs)(hereinafter "drones").

Please search specifically for the below document categories, and respond to each of the categories and items:

1) Acquisition documents:

i) requests for proposals (RFPs), proposals/quotes submitted by vendors, contracts, leases, budget requests, project/equipment budgets, cost allocations or reimbursements for the purchase of drone equipment;

ii) Grant applications and award letters for drone equipment purchases;

iii) Insurance contracts for all drone equipment;

iv) Communications (including electronic communications) between the agency head or agency quartermaster (or individual responsible for equipment purchases and maintenance) and drone vendors, manufacturers or retailers;

v) Communications (including electronic communications) between the agency head and agency quartermaster (or individual responsible for equipment purchases and maintenance) regarding acquisition, lease or use of drone equipment;

vi) Communications (including electronic communications) between the agency head and the governor, mayor and city/town manager regarding the acquisition of drones;

vii) Applications (including all components and support documentation) for Certificates of Waiver/Authorization (COA) from the Federal Aviation Administration, as well as COA grant notifications and final agreement;

viii) Contracts for services related to drones, such as data storage, data analysis, image storage, image analysis, video storage, video analysis, operation, maintenance;

2) Equipment logs:

i) Inventories/logs/lists/databases of all drones owned, leased or operated by or for the agency;

ii) Maintenance logs for all drones owned, leased or otherwise operated by or for the agency;

3) Policy documents:

- i) Policies, guidelines, protocols, manuals and/or instructions on the use/operation of drones and usage of data, images and video obtained from drone flights;
- ii) Communications from the agency head, quartermaster (or individual responsible for overseeing equipment purchases and maintenance) on approved uses for drones;
- iii) Memorandums of understanding (MOUs), memorandums of agreement (MOAs) or any other agreements or contracts with other government agencies, private corporations, organizations or individuals to share drone equipment, data, images or video or to operate drones on behalf of the agency;

4) Training documents:

- i) Curriculum used to train drone operators and observers;
- ii) Training log for all drone operators and observers;
- iii) Certifications of training completion for all drone operators and observers;
- iv) Contracts, purchase orders, budget requests or reimbursement orders for training sessions for all drone operators and observers;

5) Usage documents:

- i) Flight logs for all drone flights, including training flights;
- ii) Flight logs transmitted to the Federal Aviation Administration pursuant to Certificate of Waiver/Authorization (COA) requirements;
- iii) Reprimands relating to drones, including misuse of equipment and failure to properly maintain equipment.

I also request that, if appropriate, fees be waived as I believe this request is in the public interest. The requested documents will be made available to the general public free of charge as part of the public information service at MuckRock.com, processed by a representative of the news media/press and is made in the process of news gathering and not for commercial usage.

In the event that fees cannot be waived, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 15 business days, as the statute requires.

Sincerely,

Shawn Musgrave

Filed via MuckRock.com